



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,  
EDITOR.

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I Love to see the setting sun,  
Sink splendidly from sight;  
I love to watch, while one by one  
The stars peep out at night,  
All Nature's charms, in short, I love,  
Her forests, fields and bowers;  
But, O, all other things above,  
I love her many flowers.

**He Who is Afraid of stings and thorns**  
will never obtain the famous honey of  
Mount Hybla, for there the roses are guard-  
ed by the thorns, and the honey is defended  
by the bees.

**There will be a Rush for supplies**  
needed in the apiary after awhile, and we  
cannot do better than to urge all to look  
over their stock, ascertain what will be  
needed, and get it on hand before it is nec-  
essary for use—thus avoiding the perplexity  
consequent upon its possible delay in reach-  
ing them in time.

**It is No Longer an Open Question**  
whether newspaper advertising pays. What  
a business man now considers in this con-  
nection is how, when and where it can be  
done to insure the best returns on the in-  
vestment. Have something of value to sell;  
then select the paper which sends the  
greatest number of copies to those who  
should use the article. Use as few words as  
possible, and let them be printed in large  
type, so as to catch the eye. These are some  
of the secrets of successful advertising.

**Mr. E. C. Jordan**, proprietor of the  
White Sulphur Springs in Fred Co., Va., and  
one of the foremost apiculturists of that State,  
sent a useful Christmas present to the  
AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. (It was delayed  
in transit, and was not received until Jan.  
14.) It consisted of a heavy iron inkstand,  
with bottles for three colors of ink, and its  
name is "The Virginia." It is so heavy  
that it would be very difficult to upset it.  
Mr. Jordan has our thanks for his thought-  
fulness, as well as for the nice present.

Many Encouraging and enthusiastic  
letters have been received, during the past  
month, showing the hearty welcome which  
the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL receives at the  
homes of its many subscribers. We cannot  
spare the space in the JOURNAL necessary to  
print them, but our appreciation is none the  
less, for that. The following, from two of  
the most prominent bee-keepers in America,  
may be taken as samples of them all. We  
hereby tender our thanks to all for their  
"kind words," whether they have expressed  
their appreciation or not. One prominent  
bee-keeper remarks as follows:

"I have often wondered how you can give  
us so good a paper at a dollar a year! It  
has been with much pride that I have seen  
the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL rise from  
where it was when it came into its present  
editor's hands up to the great excellence of to-  
day. It has especially seemed to excel all  
past record during the year 1886, and I am  
proud to say that no bee-paper in existence  
(and I subscribe for them all) can begin to  
compare with it!"

Another correspondent and prominent  
apiculturist writes:

"I deem the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL the  
best and most valuable of any I receive (and  
that comprises all that are published in the  
United States, Canada, and England). Its  
editor seems to be actuated by a desire not  
only to instruct and benefit, but also to  
make the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL a distinc-  
tively high-toned periodical."

In order to keep up to the present "stan-  
dard of excellence," the AMERICAN BEE  
JOURNAL needs five thousand new sub-  
scribers, and we hope to get them during  
the present year. Many are working with a  
will for its prosperity, and if a few more  
would do likewise, we should soon have the  
desired number of subscribers to make it  
pay at the reduced rate of a dollar. We  
would ask all to kindly do what they can to  
send us new subscribers for 1887.

**The Union Convention at Albany, N. Y.**,  
was held last week. It was attended by  
those who usually go to such meetings in  
that State. The following were the officers  
elected for the ensuing year: President,  
W. E. Clark, Oriskany; Vice-President, Ira  
Barber, De Kalb Junction; Secretary, G. H.  
Knickerbocker, Pine Plains; Treasurer, J.  
L. Scofield, Chenango Bridge.

President Clark was re-elected, a fact  
which speaks well for his management dur-  
ing the past year. In his annual address he  
recommended delegate conventions instead  
of mass meetings, as heretofore held, and a  
corresponding better service to our pursuit.  
He said:

One of the most important topics we are  
to consider is, how can we cheapen the cost  
of producing honey, a subject of more im-  
port to bee-keepers than any other. The  
subject of the middle man is also worthy of  
consideration. I do not think we can dis-  
pense with the middle man; but it is not  
right that he should make more money on  
one crate of honey than he does on two  
barrels of sugar. Comb honey is as much a  
luxury as butter, and ought to command  
fair prices to the producer. In conclusion,  
President Clark thought the best interests  
of the industry would be served by having a  
delegated convention, instead of assem-  
bling in a general way, as now.

**Any One** who cannot debate a point or  
theory without attacking the motives of his  
opponent, does not understand the first  
principle of friendly discussion.

**The Canadian Bee-Lawsuit** was  
brought before the Convention of the On-  
tario Bee-Keepers' Association, at Toronto,  
and "it was decided to take no action—the  
defendant not being a member of the asso-  
ciation, and it being manifest that the law-  
suit had grown out of a dispute between  
neighbors." The action in this case, McIn-  
tosh vs. Harrison, was taken by the plaintiff  
"to compel the defendant to abate a nu-  
isance in the shape of bees kept on his  
premises." As we understand that the  
apiary has been destroyed by fire, there will  
be nothing to complain of—the nuisance (if  
there was any) having been abated long ago.

As Mr. Harrison was not a member of the  
Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, or any  
other society of bee-keepers, including the  
National Bee-Keepers' Union, it seems that  
he had no claim to the assistance of any one—  
especially in a neighborhood quarrel. Every-  
thing indicates that a bad state of feeling and  
much vituperation pervaded both litigants,  
and but for this, in all probability no law-  
suit would have occurred.

At the Toronto convention Mr. J. B. Hall,  
of Woodstock, who had been cited as a wit-  
ness in the case, expressed the firm belief  
that the judges would give a fair decision,  
when the matter came before a full court.  
We hope that such will be the case, and  
await the verdict of the court.

**We have Received** a copy of "The  
Book of Plant Descriptions, or Record of  
Plant Analyses," by Prof. Geo. G. Groff, a  
learned apiculturist of Lewisburg, Pa. This  
valuable acquisition to botanical literature  
contains a synopsis of the terms most  
frequently used in plant descriptions, a  
schedule of botanical laboratory work, and  
a list of suitable subjects for theses.

The book is prepared for the use of both  
teachers and students, and is a very nice  
assistant to those interested in plants and  
flowers. It could also be used to an ex-  
cellent advantage by bee-keepers, as by its  
use they would be enabled to analyze, and  
keep a record of the many honey-plants  
which beautify their surrounding country.  
The price is 45 cents per copy.

**Mrs. McKechnie**, of Angus, Ont., who  
personally manages about 100 colonies of  
bees, occupied the chair during part of the  
recent sessions of the Ontario Bee-Keepers'  
Association, and did so very gracefully. The  
Rev. W. F. Clarke asks:

"Is not this the first recorded instance of  
a lady bee-keeper filling such a position?"  
and then he adds, "Score one for Canada!"

No; 'Tis well! but it is not the first! We  
have been present at conventions where  
Mrs. L. Harrison has filled the chair very  
gracefully. One of which was at a session  
of the Northwestern Society, held in Chicago;

**The South Platt, Nebr., Bee-Keep-  
ers' Association**, lately organized with  
nine members, and representing 186 colo-  
nies of bees, elected as officers the follow-  
ing: President, Geo. W. Warren, Harvard;  
Vice-President, J. R. Kidd, Clay Centre;  
Treasurer, A. B. Reed, Glenville; Secretary,  
C. K. Morrill, Harvard. The meeting ad-  
journed to March 7, 1887, at the Court  
House in Clay Centre.

# Our Queries

With Replies thereto.

[It is quite useless to ask for answers to Queries in this Department in less time than one month. They have to wait their turn, be put in type, and sent in about a dozen at a time to each of those who answer them; get them returned, and then find space for them in the JOURNAL. If you are in a "hurry" for replies, do not ask for them to be inserted here.—Ed.]

## Feeding Bees in Winter.

**Query, No. 362.**—What is the best way to feed bees in the winter, that are short of honey? I have 2 colonies that have been robbed of their winter stores, and I wish to save them if possible.—H. W., Mass.

See my article on feeding bees, on page 741 of the BEE JOURNAL for 1886.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Put candy over the frames, and cover it with a woolen quilt or blanket. The bees should be in a cellar.—W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Give them frames of sealed comb honey.—J. E. POND.

Put in full frames of honey, if you can get them; if not, use a soft candy made from coffee A sugar and water. Place it on top of the frames in cakes or bars.—H. D. CUTTING.

Put them into the cellar and lay some sugar candy over the frames as near as possible to the bees. The candy is quickly made, by mixing honey and powdered sugar.—DADANT & SON.

Make a candy of granulated sugar and lay it over the frames; or, what is better, use the "Good" candy, made of powdered sugar and extracted honey. Comb honey can be fed in the same way.—G. L. TINKER.

Pile combs of honey one upon the other, with the sides flatwise over the cluster, until there is enough to last until spring, after which adjust the packing.—C. W. DAYTON.

Feed "Good" candy, or else fill the combs *a la* Dr. Miller. I prefer candy laid over the combs, if one must feed. I should never permit bees to go into winter with so little food.—A. J. COOK.

I will let others answer that have had more experience. It is a blunder to have bees in such condition. The time to feed is when they can fly freely.—JAMES HEDDON.

I think the very best way is to give combs of honey, either laying them on top of the cluster or hanging right in or beside the cluster. At any rate, see that the bees get to the honey.—C. C. MILLER.

I am now wintering some of my colonies on a mixture of standard A sugar and extracted honey. The sugar was mixed into a stiff mass by adding extracted honey and kneading the mass until it was stiff enough to pack into shallow frames, and these were placed right over the cluster on

the tops of the frames, and covered up warmly. These colonies had a flight on Dec. 18, and were in splendid condition. Granulated sugar will not answer for this purpose. A few colonies fed on the best unrefined New Orleans sugar, mixed as described above, are also doing well.—G. W. DEMARE.

Lay a frame of sealed honey on  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch sticks on top of the frames, immediately over the cluster, and cover with the quilt. Bee-candy placed in the same position will answer, but not as well as the honey. When you put the colonies out in the spring, the same robbers will "clean" them again, unless you are very careful.—J. P. H. BROWN.

Place frames of honey flatwise over the frames, being careful not to chill the bees, by letting the warm air escape.—THE EDITOR.

## Steam in a Bee-Cave.

**Query, No. 363.**—I have 15 colonies of bees in a small, dry, warm cave; but since I put them in, there is steam in the cave. Is this steam injurious to bees? If so, what shall I do about it?—G. W., Mo.

Give a little ventilation.—DADANT & SON.

The steam results from evaporation, the bees causing it in throwing off the water part of their food, and, with me, it does no harm.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I would make some small ventilation at the top and bottom, care being taken not to reduce the temperature too much.—J. P. H. BROWN.

The steam will do no harm if the cave is warm enough, and there is ventilation for the steam to get out.—G. L. TINKER.

If the temperature is high enough, I do not think the dampness injurious. There is probably no better method of removing the dampness than by ventilation.—W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Probably not if bees remain quiet. Ventilation would remove the steam. The steam indicates saturated atmosphere, which I should feel afraid of.—A. J. COOK.

I infer that the cold air rushing in when the cave is entered, caused the steam, in which case it would not be injurious. The disturbance produced by visiting the cave often may be detrimental.—C. W. DAYTON.

Ordinarily, no. A ventilator pipe reaching to within 3 or 4 inches of the floor would help you. If you had given the degree of temperature, it would be a help in answering such questions.—H. D. CUTTING.

Dampness will do no harm, if the temperature is not too low. To get rid of the "steam," open ventilation, and raise the temperature.—JAMES HEDDON.

It may, and it may not be. If the cause is lack of ventilation (and I should judge it was), ventilate; but be careful and not reduce the temperature too low, or render it unequal.—J. E. POND.

I do not know whether there is any harm in the steam. It may be that upon opening the cave, the air therein being cooled shows steam, whereas any one in the cave before you opened it would say there was no steam in the cave. At any rate I think I should want some provision for ventilation, for if the air is sufficiently pure otherwise, I should not be much afraid of the steam. Still, you can tell better about it by seeing whether the bees appear quiet.—C. C. MILLER.

If there is "steam" in your cellar, I think you will find everything dripping wet after awhile. The reason that bees will not winter in a cellar in this climate, is on account of dampness. In my fruit and vegetable cellar, which is frost-proof, there is a curtain of burlap hanging at an inner door, to keep the cold air from entering when the outer door is opened, and this cloth shutter is sometimes as wet as water can make it.—G. W. DEMARE.

Though the steam is quite harmless, it can easily be removed by giving very slight ventilation.—THE EDITOR.

## Dampness in a Bee-Cellar.

**Query, No. 364.**—I built an addition to my house, 16x20 feet, and it is only single boarded, and a rough floor laid over the cellar. I put 36 colonies in on Nov. 9, all in good condition, and the cellar is wet and cold, so the water stands in drops on the under side of the cover, and the bees are very uneasy. My bees are in one-story Simplicity hives, just as they were on the summer stands. What would be best to prevent such dampness?—New York.

Not knowing the temperature, I should say it was too cold.—H. D. CUTTING.

See my answer to Query, No. 363.—JAMES HEDDON.

If you can keep the temperature of your cellar between 45° and 48°, the drops of water will do no harm. I should judge that the cellar was too cold.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Keep the cellar warmer. If the temperature were up to 45° Fahr., and well ventilated, it would be different. The main thing, I think, is to keep the cellar between 38° and 48°, Fahr.—A. J. COOK.

You made a mistake in putting your bees into the cellar. I should use a small stove to temper the atmosphere, and to keep it as near 45° or 50° as I could.—J. P. H. BROWN.

In my opinion, such a repository as you describe, is a perfect "bee-killer." I should put a coal-stove in that cellar and keep the temperature at the point where the bees are most quiet.—W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

If the moisture is on the under side of the hive-covers, they need more upward hive-ventilation. If it is on the cover of the cellar, it will do no harm. The driest of atmospheres contain some moisture which may condense and adhere to cold surfaces. To prevent the dampness on the cover of the cellar, keep a fire in the room above, or cover the floor of the room with sawdust.—C. W. DAYTON.



The best would be to make some fire in that cellar, and with a little ventilation it would soon be dry. We would put some straw or fodder over that floor.—DADANT & SON.

The dampness of itself will do no harm. Keep the temperature equable at about 45°, Fahr. If you cannot do that, your bees would be better off on the summer stands.—J. E. POND.

I should put a stove in the cellar and dry it out by a slow process—give ventilation at the tops of the hives until the bees are dry and quiet. Want of proper exhalation from the bodies of the bees is the cause of all uneasiness and disease in bees during the winter months, and cold is at the bottom of all this. Such is my experience in my apiary.—G. W. DEMARKEE.

Perhaps plaster of Paris, or lime, put in occasionally might help matters. Let in what air you can without cooling the cellar too much. You might try a hive or two with a little more upward ventilation, or perhaps better still, give very abundant air at the entrance.—C. C. MILLER.

Dampness does no harm of itself. It is cold and dampness that does the mischief. A damp cellar should be kept warmer than a dry one, because at the same degree cold is more severely felt in the former, owing to the more rapid conduction of heat. We feel the cold on a damp day much more keenly than on a dry day. If the cellar is wet and cold, warm it up, by all means. It is entirely practicable to use a stove in a cellar where there are bees, to warm it up and drive out the dampness, the wet and the cold, and thereby save the bees. The light may be closed in by any safe and suitable means. A faint light, especially in the evening, does little injury.—G. L. TINKER.

Put a fire into the bee-cellar at once, and keep the temperature at that degree which insures quietude to the bees.—THE EDITOR.

### Convention Notices.

☞ The Northeastern Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its fifth annual meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 2, 1887, in the Common Council Rooms, at Bay City, Mich.  
W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Sec.

☞ The next meeting of the Hardin County Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Eldora, Iowa, on Feb. 12, 1887, at G. W. Ward's office, at 10 a.m. Our monthly meetings are very interesting, and we hope for a large attendance.  
J. W. BUCHANAN, Sec.

☞ The Northeastern Ohio, Northern Pa. and Western New York Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its 8th annual convention in Chapman's Opera House, at Andover, O., on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 19 and 20, 1887. First-class hotel accommodations are offered at \$1 per day to those attending the convention. A general invitation is extended to all.  
M. E. MASON, Sec.

☞ The Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association meets at the Capitol in Madison, Wis., on Thursday, Feb. 3, 1887, at 9 a.m. All progressive bee-keepers are earnestly invited to attend, and supply-dealers are requested to exhibit their best implements and inventions. The State Agricultural convention will be in session at the same time, commencing on Feb. 1 and closing on Feb. 4, which will be an additional inducement for many to attend. Hotel rates are from \$1 to \$3 per day. Return tickets will very probably be given over the principal railroads at reduced rates.  
F. WILCOX, Sec.

## Correspondence.

**Explanatory.**—The figures BEFORE the names indicate the number of years that the person has kept bees. Those AFTER, show the number of colonies the writer had in the previous spring and fall, or fall and spring, as the time of the year may require.

This mark ⊙ indicates that the apiarist is located near the center of the State named; ♂ north of the center; ♀ south; ☐ east; ☐ west; and this ♂ northeast; ☐ northwest; ☐ southeast; and ♀ southwest of the center of the State mentioned.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Sections Filled with Comb.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

When I first began bee-keeping I found that one of the greatest hindrances to my being a successful comb honey producer, was that of getting the bees to work early in the season in the boxes or surplus arrangement. Often the best part of the season would pass away before a bit of work would be done, save in the brood-chamber, the result of which was little surplus honey in marketable shape, with the body of the hive overloaded with honey, and but weak colonies of bees (owing to the honey crowding out the queen) for winter. This state of affairs worried me, and I began experimenting earnestly to see what could be done to overcome the difficulty. I soon found that wherever a frame of brood was placed, if within a reasonable distance of the main cluster, then the bees would commence work on either side of it, especially on the side between this brood and the main cluster.

Taking advantage of this fact which I had learned, about ten days before the main honey harvest commenced, I would place an empty frame in the centre of many of the colonies of bees, leaving them there for 8 or 9 days, when they were generally found full of nice white drone-comb which contained brood in the egg and larval form. I now cut these combs in pieces about 3 inches square, and fitted a piece into as many boxes as I had colonies which refused to work in the surplus apartment. As soon as such boxes were placed on the hives, the bees would take possession of them, at once going to work, and in a day or two work would be commenced in the rest of the boxes also. As this was in the days of 6-pound boxes, this piece of comb was all out of sight so that the darker color of this central comb did not show to injure the sale of the honey. However, I did not like the practicing of anything that looked like putting the best side out, so I kept on experimenting, when I soon found that a few partly-filled boxes left over from the previous season answered the same purpose, only I had to use about three times as many as I did of the brood. As this took many more such boxes

than I would have on hand as a rule, I still used the brood to some extent.

The next season I began getting combs built during fruit-bloom, going to each hive every five days and cutting out the comb before any of the larvae in the cells were large enough to soil the comb. These combs thus obtained were fitted into the boxes, which, in addition to those left over from the previous year, gave me all I needed, so that the using of brood was entirely dispensed with, except occasionally on a very obstinate colony which would scorn all my persuasion except brood. I have never known brood placed in boxes to fail in making the most obstinate colony work in them, and I sometimes resort to it now in these days of sections and comb foundation, putting the sections, when finished, in the third grade of honey.

Upon the advent of comb foundation, to supply my lack of poorly-filled sections, I would place frames filled with foundation in the centre of strong colonies of bees prior to the honey harvest, so as to get the foundation drawn, feeding, if necessary, to accomplish this object, so that I might have all the sections filled with comb which I needed. This latter plan I have seen recommended by many others since I adopted it, scores having secured by its use crops of nice white honey exceeding by far any hitherto produced.

After passing through all of this experience, and becoming so thoroughly convinced that I was right, as to write several times for the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and other bee-papers, that I considered "sections filled with comb left over from the previous season better than money in a bank," imagine my surprise on reading the advice given by Mr. Dibbern, on page 774 or the BEE JOURNAL for 1886, where he says that to bring Mr. Thielmann's ideas up to modern times, he should "after extracting cut out the combs, melt them up, and burn the old sections." After all these years of labor and experiment to accomplish a thing which to me and others seems the very height of perfection, why are we now called upon to "cut out the combs" and "melt them up?" I have carefully re-read Mr. Dibbern's article, and I fail to find any reason given for such a procedure; neither do I find any reason given for the burning of the old sections.

With me, sections five years old are as clear and bright as any. To be sure, he says that sections "must be scraped of every particle of propolis," but there is no reason given for preferring new sections, after being so scraped, to old ones. Many of us cannot afford to purchase sections for the fun of burning them up, even if Mr. D. can. As I said of "modern transferring," so I say of this "modern comb honey production," if any man has plenty of money to "throw at birds," I do not object to his doing so, providing he does not cause his family to suffer; but I do object to having it made to appear that if we would keep abreast of the times, we, who cannot

afford it, must go to such a needless waste of time, labor and money, as Mr. D's modern honey-producing calls for. If Mr. D's surplus arrangement is so faulty that his sections are soiled the first year so as to be unfit for use the second, I would advise him to look about and get something better.

I perfectly agree with all that Mr. D. says about getting "honey in the best possible shape," and putting it upon the market in "faultless packages," having all graded and in workmanlike shape, as it should be, but I do not see why all this cannot be done without all the labor, expense and waste he advises in his last paragraph.

Borodino, © N. Y.

For the American Bee Journal.

### The Honey Market Reports.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

In continuation of what I formerly said on page 6, there is this objection to the wholesale commission man: He stands as an additional middle-man, and must have his pay for his labor in the form of the commission, and from this results the fact that the producer gets just so much less, or the consumer pays just so much more than he otherwise would. But this same objection holds equally against wholesale dry-goods merchants, or, indeed, wholesale merchants of any kind, and we could hardly dispense with all wholesale merchandising. It is all right to cultivate the home markets, and probably none too much has been said urging this, but certainly we must not go to the opposite direction so far as to say that no honey whatever must be sent to the city markets. Much can, no doubt, be done to increase the consumption in the home market, but there are cases in which the home market is in such condition that it is but right that the denizens of the city should have a taste of our delicious sweets.

Whatever may be in the future, in the past the only thing to be done was to sell to the city wholesale buyer or send to the wholesale commission man. I have done both ways, and where I could sell outright for cash I liked that plan much the best, but if, by shipping to a commission man, my honey would net me 10 to 20 per cent. more than outright sale would bring me (as has been the case), then the commission man was a blessing to me.

As to publishing the reports of commission men, there is some weight in the objection that Mr. Baldrige makes, that they get a good deal of free advertising; but I am not sure that they are to blame for it. If we cannot get the information any other way, we must be glad to get it through them, even at the expense of giving them a free advertisement. The thing we want is, to have all the light and knowledge we can get, and what objection is there to getting it from the commission men?

If honey is sold in a certain city at a certain price, is it not right that this fact should be published? Mr. Baldrige says: "They are to a great extent responsible for the present low prices that prevail everywhere for honey." There is, I believe, much truth in this. It results from the fact that some of them report the price of honey at a figure lower than that for which they are actually selling.

A producer, Smith, sends some honey to a commission man, Jones, and Jones sells it at 13 cents per pound when his market report reads 11 cents. Thirteen cents is really the market price, and there is no difficulty in selling at that price, and Jones is selling all honey of like quality at that price, but by quoting it in the papers at 11 cents, he makes Smith believe he is getting an extra price. So far, no great harm is done, for Smith gets just the same for his honey as if the market quotation had been correct. But here is where the trouble comes. A producer in the country taking the report as literal truth, and basing his price upon the printed report, sells his honey for 2 cents less than he ought, thus demoralizing the market. What is the remedy? Exclude the commission men's reports? Before their reports were given, we had quotations of wholesale buyers, and their prices were still lower, and the producer in basing his price upon the printed quotation, did not always discriminate between the two, but if 11 cents was quoted it meant all the same to him whether it was buyers' or commission men's quotations. What shall we do then? It will hardly do to omit reports altogether.

Friend Newman, on page 771 of the BEE JOURNAL for 1886, says: "Of course market quotations on honey must be published," (and he is surely right) "and if not supplied by the commission men, they must be made by the producers, or a selected committee by the producers' association." As yet the producers' association cannot make them, and I can hardly see how producers can make them, so at present it seems to be left to the editors and wholesale buyers and commission men.

But the difficulty comes back, can we get reliable reports? As already intimated, there have been cases where it looked to me as if the quotations were too high. At any rate, after shipping to a point where a high figure was quoted, I have received much less than the quotations. In this case did the dealer quote a higher figure than he had any idea of obtaining for the sake of custom, or did he quote what he really could sell for and was selling for; and did this attract such large shipments as to suddenly depress the market?

The whole matter of obtaining reliable quotations is in some places beset with difficulties, but at present I see no better way than to continue the present plan, and if there are any who make dishonest reports, let such reporters be reported. It is not a very difficult thing to find out by

making inquiries something about prices in the large cities, and if there are those who give wrong quotations, if they know the matter is being looked after they may be induced to be more careful. I see no reason why we may not have as reliable quotation for honey as for other products.

Marengo, 3 Ills.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Marketing an Over-Production.

C. W. DAYTON.

Many are wedded to the idea that because honey is a glut on the market in Chicago, it ought to bring a corresponding price away out here in the country. This is turning relations bottom upwards, and for the sake of apiculture it should be deserted.

In a recent issue of *Gleanings*, three causes for the low price of honey are given as over-production, general depression of trade, and adulteration. Of the first we have lack of consumption; the second has no effect, except in paying debts already contracted; and as to adulteration affecting the price of pure honey, it is hardly admissible. It is certain that the more glucose there is in the honey the lower will the price of the mixture be, but when we come back to a pure article we will find the old and corresponding price that is regulated entirely by consumption at present, and has fair prospects of being so regulated for years. Adulteration does not affect standard gold.

When we have produced more than will be consumed as a luxury, then it must supersede other sweets. I find white clover at 7 to 8 cents per pound with the corresponding lower grades to be an able competitor. It is reported that the price of cane-sugar is now at or below the cost of production. The general consumer has not yet learned to supersede sugar with honey; they cannot at present, because there is not enough honey produced for the purpose. There are some "weak hearted" bee-keepers who have not the push and vim to place their product before the consumer, who are trying to sell their product at home, and are thereby advancing the making of honey a cheap article of food, even while it might remain a high-priced luxury. I know of grocerymen who buy nice comb honey at 10 to 11 cents per pound in trade, and sell it at 15 to 20 cents per pound for cash. I know of others who buy comb honey built crosswise of the rows of sections, for 10 cents per pound, and will not pay any more for my choicest one-pound sections that can be removed from the crates like so many bricks.

I have become so disgusted with grocerymen that I often forget them when selling honey. There are beekeepers in my neighborhood who advertised honey at about 6½ cents per pound, while 9,000 pounds was easily sold at 8 to 10 cents per pound, and there was hundreds of calls for more.



I have driven to the most business corner in a city and retailed 500 pounds in pails, pitchers and jars, in 4 or 5 hours, and in this I have not mentioned an exceptional instance. But the greatest excellence usually comes with the greatest labor, and this saying is as true with selling honey as it is with anything under the sun. A good salesman, in my opinion, exercises more home-made science than a dozen who handle bees; and the fact that a grocer makes as much in a few hours by handling honey over the counter, as the bee-keeper does in bending his back over the hives all summer, attests the truth of this statement.

It requires ingenuity, skill, and no small amount of energy to go into a dull town and collect a crowd to sell their honey. The production of honey is a very pleasant business—it is the down-hill side of bee-keeping. To sell the honey is beginning to appear like up-hill business, and we should not be slow in learning to share the good with the bad, if as such we are disposed to view it. When one finds a soft retreat, and makes it known, he may soon enjoy much company. A perfect honey-producer should be an expert at handling bees and selling honey as well.

When we have become so numerous that it will pay regular honey buyers in our towns, then it is probable that the usual bee-keeper will take his honey to town and accept the price offered by the buyer, who sells it again, as do the above-mentioned grocermen. I like to pass by the grocermen when out selling honey, as then I may reach home without being duped.

In other years I shipped honey to the large markets. The highest price obtained for extracted honey was 6 cents per pound, and the lowest was nothing per 300 pounds. This year, being somewhat at leisure, I experimented a little in the honey market, and purchased of a producer near by, the finest comb honey, at a price that netted him less money per pound than was realized for my extracted.

One apiarist shipped his extracted honey to St. Louis and realized 2½ cents per pound.

Yes; the greatest bar to the consumption of honey is adulteration, but the adulteration comes about in this wise: Years ago when Mr. Doolittle and others obtained 25 to 30 cents per pound for honey, the merchants and others found it profitable business mixing honey with sugar, as that was cheap. The improved methods of handling bees rendered honey more plentiful, and consequently the price began to fall. This necessitated the use of a cheaper and poorer basis for its manufacture, and as a matter of course it ended with glucose.

On this the lovers of honey innocently feasted until they were sick and disgusted. Upon looking around themselves, they discovered that there was the real "bee-honey" and the adulterated, so they inquired for "bee-honey," and had confidence in bee-keepers. Then was extracted

honey of good sale. Presently the apiarist, to obtain a larger yield, perceived the idea of taking the honey from the combs as soon as it was gathered, and before the water had evaporated from it.

From some of these reasons there are many who can say that extracted honey ferments, or that there has been too much of the stuff sold. Take a fine article that has remained in the combs until it is thoroughly ripened, and we will find those who will not even look at it, much less taste of it. Others will taste, and buy a trial pound; the next time it will be 10 pounds, and end with a 100-pound keg for winter, the last time around.

It is not the over-production or present adulteration of honey that is the greatest obstruction to the use of extracted honey. People have been duped and be-fooled so much that they think there cannot be any good honey outside of the combs, and many have not the faith to experiment. It may be seen that the apiarist of today must tear down and remove much that has been done heretofore, and begin to build from near the foundation.

Bradford,  $\delta$  Iowa.

For the American Bee Journal.

## Excluding Market Reports.

M. M. BALDRIDGE.

On page 771 of the BEE JOURNAL for 1886, the Editor requests his readers to express themselves upon the matters set forth on page 774, in my article on the "Honey Producers' Association," but cautions them "to take time to think before writing."

On page 810 of the same volume, an Iowa reader hastens to tell what he thinks about my "proposition to exclude the market reports from the bee-papers." He says: "If two editions were published to accommodate both factions," that he would "rather have the one containing the market reports." It is evident to me that this Iowa correspondent is not a very critical reader, and that he did not "take time to think before writing." Why? Because there is nothing in my article about excluding "the market reports from the bee-papers!" What I had to say was simply in regard to excluding, from the bee-papers, the market reports on honey as fixed and manipulated by the wholesale commission men. This being the case, will this Iowa reader please "take time to think" over and answer the following question? Suppose the honey-producers of the United States would form an association, and from its members select a committee competent to fix a fair, living price for honey, based on supply and demand, for both producer and consumer, which market report would you then rather see in the bee-papers—the one thus prepared and agreed upon by the association, or those fixed and manipulated as now by the wholesale commission men? Come, now, get right down to busi-

ness and give us your best thoughts upon the subject.

On page 811 of the same volume, a Michigan reader tells what he thinks about "excluding the market reports of commission men." He says these reports "are generally the first thing" that he reads; that he would rather dispense with "any other part of the paper," and that they "benefit" the bee-papers "as much as they do the commission men."

I regret to see that this Michigan correspondent did not "take time to think before writing." But, if he did "take time to think," he forgot to send us the thoughts we so much desire. He says the market reports of commission men are "generally the first thing" he reads, but neglects to tell *why*. Will he please tell us why he reads them, and of what value they are to him, or to honey-producers? Does he read them for the express purpose of being governed by them in the sale or the purchase of honey at home or abroad? If so, then that is one of the reasons we want them to keep out of the bee-papers. If honey-producers wish to donate their honey to retailers or consumers, they can do this without any further aid from the wholesale commission men.

But, says the Michigan reader, these market reports are of as much "benefit" to the bee-papers as to the "commission men." Now, is this true? Pray tell us of what benefit it is to a bee-paper to have the price of honey fixed and manipulated by commission men instead of by honey-producers? Does any one suppose that it does a bee-paper any good to have its readers disgusted and disheartened by such low prices as the commission men have fixed and manipulated for them in the past to be governed by? Do you think a bee-paper is benefited when the low prices of commission men cause its readers to quit the business in disgust, and become non-subscribers? Again, do you think it benefits a bee-paper to publish market reports on honey that no honey-producer would be willing to show to his honey customers? Nor in fact to a honey-producer whom he thinks might be governed by them? Perhaps it has never occurred to you, nor in fact to the proprietors of the bee-papers themselves, that there are many subscribers who refuse to increase their circulation simply because of the market reports of wholesale commission men. In fact I know of many subscribers who keep the bee-papers out of sight of their friends and neighbors, simply for the same reason that many grocers do their trade periodicals. Now this practice would be changed in case the bee-papers contained simply the market reports of honey producers. Then there would be nothing in the bee-papers which the honey-producers would be unwilling to have others see and read.

Now let me call the attention of the readers to some of the benefits the commission men secure by their free advertising in our bee-papers. These standing free advertisements

secure them other farm products to sell on commission besides honey. They do not in fact need to expend a dollar in legitimate advertising to get all the farm produce to sell on commission they desire to handle. So, you see, what a nice thing it is for the commission men to get control of a whole column of our bee-papers, free gratis, for nothing!

In view of the foregoing, who now thinks that the bee-papers are really benefited as much as the commission men?

St. Charles, 3 Ills.

For the American Bee Journal.

## Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association.

REV. W. F. CLARKE.

The adjourned annual meeting of the above-named body was held in the City Hall, Toronto, Jan. 5 and 6, 1887. The meeting had been adjourned from September last, to give time for the return of the commissioners who had been to England in charge of the display of Canadian honey at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. The expectation that these gentlemen would be present, and give a report of their doings, was a special attraction of the occasion. Three out of four were on hand, but to the regret of all, Mr. D. A. Jones had been detained in England too long to admit of his arriving in time for the meeting. The others, Messrs. S. T. Pettit, president of the association, S. Cornell, and B. McKnight received the hearty congratulations of their fellow bee-keepers on their safe return.

President Pettit, in the course of his annual address, said: The events of the year 1886 truly mark an epoch in the progress of our association. It has emerged from its chrysalis state to enjoy its higher and better, its fully-fledged legal existence. Through the generous assistance given by the members of this association, your commissioners succeeded in putting on exhibition at the Colonial Exhibition the largest, and perhaps the finest display of honey ever made in the world. The English people of all classes received your commissioners with marked attention, and treated us with the greatest kindness and courtesy. Our brother bee-keepers over in the Mother Country gave us a right royal reception, and vied with each other in making us feel happy and at home during our stay with them.

The President introduced Mr. J. A. Abbott, of Southall, England, son of a noted English bee-keeper. Mr. Abbott, who was warmly greeted, briefly expressed his appreciation of the hearty reception tendered him. Mr. Abbott was elected an honorary member of the association.

A resolution was introduced looking to legislation with a view of exterminating foul brood. Mr. F. Malcolm, Mr. J. B. Hall and others testified to the prevalence of the disease in various quarters, and urged the necessity of vigorous measures being adopted in order to stamp it out.

A memorial from the Oxford Bee-Keepers' Association was presented, asking for action in regard to the matter. There was considerable discussion as to the possibility of enforcing legislation, if it were obtained.

Mr. Abbott, in reply to a question, said there was no law in England in regard to this disease; in fact, there was no legislation on bee-keeping at all.

The resolution was laid on the table, but at a subsequent session was taken up again, and a committee appointed to confer with the government and endeavor to secure a stringent law to suppress foul brood.

Mr. Cornell introduced a resolution asking aid from the public funds to enable the association to invite Mr. Cheshire to pay a visit to this country and deliver lectures on bee-keeping. He said that he had sounded Mr. Cheshire on the subject, and believed he would come if his expenses were guaranteed. He spoke of Mr. Cheshire's eminent ability, and scientific researches, expressing the opinion that no other living man equaled him as an authority on apiculture.

Rev. W. F. Clarke concurred with Mr. Cornell as to Mr. Cheshire's great acquirements, and spoke in the highest terms of his book on bee-keeping. Still he thought there were serious objections to the proposal made. It would be impolitic to ask the government to make a special grant of money for this purpose. They had shown great liberality in connection with the exhibit of Canadian honey in England, which they had aided to the extent of \$1,000, and they had promised an annual grant of \$500 in aid of this association. We must not keep crying "give, give," or we should be looked upon as greedy and hard to satisfy. We might by asking too much, jeopardize what we had already obtained. By and by, when the fruits of the liberal expenditure made began to be manifest, we might, perhaps, ask for more. With all respect to Mr. Cheshire, he doubted if his lectures would be of much practical value to Canadian bee-keepers. His scientific researches taxed the intellectual capacity of our most advanced bee-keepers, but in the practical work of the apiary, he could teach us very little, from the difference of climate and circumstances between this country and Britain. We would not think of getting English agriculturists or horticulturists to come here and instruct our farmers and gardeners. When any of them settled here, they had to become learners to a large extent. It would be the same with English bee-keepers. It would be wiser to invite some leading United States bee-keepers to come over to our associations, and he believed they would cheerfully do so, if their expenses were paid, and the cost would be much less while the gain would be far greater, than to bring a lecturer all the way from England.

Mr. Abbott conferred in the opinion that British bee-keepers could not instruct their Canadian brethren, owing to the difference between the two countries. After some discus-

sion strongly setting against the project, the resolution was put and negatived by a large majority.

### THE ENGLISH EXHIBIT.

The evening session having been devoted to a reception of the commissioners to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, and the hearing of their reports, Mrs. McKechnie, of Angus, the second vice-president, was, in the absence of first Vice-President Pringle, called to the chair, which she filled with much grace and ability.

Rev. W. F. Clarke, chairman of the reception committee, expressed the sense of obligation which all felt in view of the task these gentlemen had undertaken and fulfilled on behalf of the honey interests of Canada. When their reports were heard he believed all would feel that they had acquitted themselves nobly, and earned the lasting gratitude of all the bee-keepers of this country. This feeling had become so general in advance of their formal report being submitted, that it had been proposed that something should be done in the way of a presentation, or a reception banquet, but difficulties had interposed, rendering anything of this kind impracticable, still he felt sure the commissioners would not consider that their welcome lacked cordiality, or their gratitude sincerity on this account. He understood that no written report had been prepared, but that each gentleman was to give his own individual account of things, and he had no doubt that what they had to say would be heard with the deepest interest. After their addresses, he had a motion to propose on behalf of the reception committee.

President Pettit gave an interesting account of his impressions of the exhibition, particularly in regard to the honey exhibit. He quoted the following notes in regard to honey exhibits from the other Colonies of the Empire:

CAPE COLONY—Two Samples. One good one, and one dark and poor.

GAMBIA, West Africa—One sample. This was granulated at top and bottom, liquid in the centre, and quite dark. It had the flavor of brown sugar, and I think it can never become popular.

VICTORIA, Australia, had some broken sections. Honey dark, thin, and the flavor resembling the juice of baked sweet apples. The sections were well finished, and separators were used.

QUEENSLAND—Honey very thick. About as dark as buckwheat, with one-third clover mixed with it, but more transparent. The flavor was very good, and agreeably pleasant; unlike anything on exhibition, and might possibly become a dangerous rival to the Ontario product.

QUEBEC had 3 pounds of clover and one of buckwheat.

BRITISH GUIANA—Honey dark and thin, of peculiar but somewhat pleasant flavor. Liquid on top, settled granules to the bottom. Does not set solid. Color, from light to dark, bottom to top. Resembling raw sugar, the lightest colored of which is placed in the bottom, and then a semi-transparent thin honey poured upon it.

The President said there was some fair honey from New Zealand, while that from the West Indies was fair in flavor, but dark. Not one of the honeys he had noted, with the exception, perhaps, of that of Queensland, need be feared as a rival to Canadian honey in the British markets, or the markets of Europe. As people there became educated to light honey, it would take the preference over any other quality. He made no comparison with British honey; it was good, and some people said it was superior



to Canadian. If the bee-keepers of Ontario worked together harmoniously and took the greatest pains to send the best honey to the British markets, by degrees Ontario honey would find its way in that country and in Germany, and the bee-keepers of Ontario would have a ready market for all the honey they could produce.

Mr. Cornell said: The experience of the commissioners was that the honey would have been disposed of far more readily if it had been done up in small packages, the large packages being very unsuitable for making an exhibit. When the small packages had been sold, the delegates hunted around London for some small receptacle into which the large tins could be subdivided, and at last they found a small can holding about two ounces. It took five persons some weeks to fill thousands of these cans, which sold like hot cakes to visitors to the exhibition at twopence each.

The Ontario exhibit had been well advertised. The *Pall Mall Gazette* interviewed the delegates, and in this way thousands were led to inquire for the Ontario honey exhibit. As a result of this exhibit, about £930 clear of all the expenses had been handed to Mr. Couse, secretary of the association, for distribution among the Ontario exhibitors, which was a fair Canadian price.

A trip to London quickly took the conceit out of a man, even out of a bee-keeper. The bee-keepers of England knew as much of their business as any other body of men; and they treated the Ontario delegates in a most hospitable manner.

Mr. McKnight said great credit was due to the one lady and the 26 Ontario men who had sent over their honey to England, not knowing what its fate might be; and the thanks of the association were due to the Ontario legislature for the generous grant it had been given. To the Dominion representatives at the Exhibition, Sir Charles Tupper, Mr. Chipman, and the others, the thanks of the association were also due, those gentlemen having rendered the delegates every possible assistance. He ventured to say that no exhibit from Canada had done more to advertise the country than the Ontario exhibit, and he had been told by a prominent English government official that nothing had done more to remove the erroneous impression which prevailed in Great Britain respecting the climate of Canada than this same exhibit. He said that Mr. Cowan, the president of the British association, would visit the Dominion next year, and he hoped every bee-keeper in Canada would show him every courtesy. The greatest care had been exercised to get the honey over in good condition. There were 700 cases altogether, and of these only 12 sections, next to nothing at all, were broken. In the event of any Canadian bee-keeper shipping honey over there in the future, he would advise that comb honey should be exposed as much as possible. The results to Canada from the Colonial Exhibition generally would undoubtedly be great.

Ontario, it was acknowledged, had made the best and most sensible exhibit of all. Her apples, cheese and honey had created a tremendous sensation. The two former ranked high in the English market, and before long, he believed the honey would attain just as high a position. It was not an over-estimate to say that 100,000 people must have tasted Ontario honey at the Colonial.

Rev. W. F. Clarke said he regretted that Mr. D. A. Jones, of Beeton, had not yet arrived from England to complete the quartette of encouraging reports. He moved "That the members of the association hail with pleasure the return of their commissioners after the fulfilment of the task which they undertook, and that the thanks of the association were due them for the eminent services they had rendered; that the association expressed its deep sense of obligation to the bee-keeping brethren and sisters of the Old Land for the great courtesy and kindness extended to the Ontario commissioners, and that the association rejoice in the presence among them of Mr. Abbott, a member of the British Bee-Keepers' Association." Adopted.

Mr. Abbott said he would have pleasure in conveying to the British Bee-Keepers' Association the sense of the resolution just passed. He spoke very highly of the Ontario honey exhibit, and said the only honey he had ever seen to compare with it was some sent over from Italy and Switzerland a few years ago. He reminded the association that every year the production of honey was on the increase in Great Britain, and prices were coming down. Ten years ago he could get what was equivalent to 50 cents a pound, now he could only get 14 cents. In order that Canadian honey might compete successfully with English, it would have to be put on the market at a cheaper price than the English, and he believed the Canadian bee-keeper could not fairly expect to get more than 8 cents a pound for extracted.

#### SECOND DAY.

After some discussion on hives, and queen-excluding honey boards, the report of the Secretary-Treasurer was read and adopted.

Under the Act of Incorporation, which now rules the association, it is ordered that the officers shall be a President, Vice-President, and a Director from each of the thirteen agricultural districts into which the Province of Ontario is divided. Previous to the election it was resolved, that the old constitution be rescinded, and that the association accept and act under the new order of things established by statute. It was found that all the districts were not represented, and a resolution was passed that directors be appointed by so many of the districts as could be filled, and instructions obtained from the government, as to filling the two vacancies that were left.

The following gentlemen were elected officers of the association for the ensuing year: President, S. T. Pettit,

Belmont; Vice-President, J. B. Hall, Woodstock; Directors, 3rd District, M. B. Holmes, Delta; 4th, W. C. Wells, Phillipston; 5th, S. Cornell, Lindsay; 6th, Jacob Spence, Toronto; 7th, W. F. Clarke, Guelph; 8th, J. F. Dunn, Ridgeway; 9th, Martin Emigh, Holbrook; 10th, R. McKnight, Owen Sound; 11th, A. G. Willows, Carlingford; 12th, Lewis Travis, Alvinston; 13th, F. H. Macpherson, Beeton; Auditors, G. B. Jones, Toronto, and F. Malcolm, Innerkip.

The meeting decided to make Hon. A. M. Ross commissioner of agriculture of Ontario, and Sir Charles Tupper honorary members of the association, in recognition of their valuable assistance.

It was agreed to ask the directors of the Industrial Exhibition Association to increase and improve the accommodation in the apiary department at the Fair Grounds.

Mr. Malcolm presented an invitation from the Oxford Bee-Keepers' Association to hold the next annual meeting of the association at Woodstock. The invitation was accepted.

The following resolution, moved by Mr. Malcolm at the Wednesday's meeting, was adopted: That a committee be appointed to take steps to secure legislation to stamp out the disease known as foul brood by quarantine or other measures.

The question of taking action in the case of McIntosh vs. Harrison was brought up. The action in this case was taken by the plaintiff to compel the defendant to abate a nuisance in the shape of bees kept on his premises. It was decided to take no action, the defendant not being a member of the association, and it being manifest that the lawsuit had grown out of a dispute between neighbors. Mr. J. B. Hall, of Woodstock, who had been cited as a witness in the case, expressed the firm belief that the judges would give a fair decision, when the matter came up for final hearing before a full court.

Mr. David Chalmers read a brief paper on the presence of bee-bread in honey exhibited at the Toronto Industrial. As one of the judges on that occasion, he deemed it his duty to call attention to this matter.

Mr. Hall stated that bee-bread would be found in sections where swarms were hived on "starters" instead of full combs, and the surplus chamber from each colony was transferred to the new swarm. On motion, Mr. Chalmers received thanks for his remarks.

The association then adjourned.

At a meeting of directors held immediately after adjournment, Mr. W. Couse was re-appointed Secretary-Treasurer, in accordance with the statute.

Guelph, Ont.

**By Using the Binder** made expressly for this BEE JOURNAL, all can have them bound and ready for reference and examination every day in the year. We have reduced the price to 60 cents, postpaid. Subscription for one year and the binder for \$1.50.

## Local Convention Directory.

1887. Time and place of Meeting.  
 Jan. 19, 20.—N. E. Ohio, N. Pa., &c., at Andover, O.  
 M. E. Mason, Sec., Andover, O.  
 Feb. 2.—N. E. Michigan, at Bay City, Mich.  
 W. Z. Hutchinson, Sec., Rogersville, Mich.  
 Feb. 3.—Wisconsin State, at Madison, Wis.  
 F. Wilcox, Sec., Mauston, Wis.  
 Feb. 4.—Fremont Progressive, at Fremont, Mich.  
 Geo. E. Hilton, Sec., Fremont, Mich.  
 Feb. 12.—Hardin County, at Eldora, Iowa.  
 J. W. Buchanan, Sec., Eldora, Iowa.

☞ In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—ED.

## SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

**Severe Winter, etc.**—E. E. Ewing, Rising Sun, 6 Md., on Jan. 8, 1887, says:

We have had a severe winter here thus far. The cold weather set in a month earlier than usual, and has been pretty steady and severely cold about all the time. Last season was a poor one for honey in all the Middle Atlantic country. There are not many bees kept here except in box-hives. Half of the farmers, perhaps, own from 1 to 5 colonies, which are likely to suffer before spring opens.

**Swarming—That "Chip."**—W. Z. Hutchinson, of Rogersville, 6 Mich., writes:

There is no man from whose shoulder I should be more delighted to knock a chip than from that of Dr. Miller. In regard to this question of controlling or preventing the desire to swarm, mentioned by the Doctor on page 7, let me ask if the Doctor has read Mr. Simmins' little book on the prevention of swarming. If he has, and knows that Mr. S. is incorrect, why has he not told us so long ago?

**Regulating Prices of Honey.**—J. A. Bayard, Athens, 9 Ohio, writes as follows:

The proposition for a combination of honey-producers, to fix the price of honey in the markets of this country, looks like a big contract, when we take into consideration that the business embraces almost an entire continent, with all its varied climate and conflicting interests. An umpire, chosen to take the matter in hand, would find it very difficult to draw the line, so as not to interfere with the export trade, and thereby throw the vast surplus on the home market. If California should rebel by refusing to enter the combination, we should find her low-priced honey competing successfully in all the markets of the country, enjoying a monopoly of the business; while the rest of us would be hanging on to the ragged edge, "waiting for something to turn up." As a merchant in times past, I know

what combinations mean, as most manufacturers in certain lines of goods are compelled to combine in order to keep each other restrained within certain limits, under heavy penalties. This plan always worked well in staple goods, and is recognized by business men everywhere. How far the principle would work in the case under advisement, I trust ere long will come to the surface in a movement in the right direction.

**Cider-Mills and Bees.**—J. Lee Anderson, Lawrence, 3 Ills., writes:

On page 9, Mr. Roebuck says: "Let all bee-keepers circulate petitions for signature, and present them to our legislatures, asking for a law that will compel cider-mill men to screen their mills and dispose of the pomace, so as not to be exposed to the injury of bees," etc. It seems to me that if Smith owns a cider-mill, and the land upon which it stands, that there can be no law made that can compel him to "screen" his mill against Jones' bees that are kept from one to three miles away. But if a law of any kind can be made, it would be one to compel Jones to keep his bees on his own premises. I am not interested in any cider-mill, but I am interested in bees, having nearly 100 colonies, but that does not prevent my using "reason and common-sense," which, on the whole, is about as good law as can be made. Is not that so?

[Class legislation, except in rare cases, is undesirable to the general public, and should be discouraged. We gave no endorsement to the plan proposed by Mr. Roebuck; and only stated that blank petitions were, by law, prohibited from being enclosed in the bee-papers.—ED.]

**My Experience with Bees.**—Wm. H. Davis, Cherry Valley, 3 Ills., on Jan. 5, 1887, says:

I knew nothing about bees a year ago. But I obtained 13 colonies in the fall of 1885, and since then I have read "Bees and Honey," and the BEE JOURNAL. I put the bees into the cellar, and in the spring they all came out in good condition. I have increased them to 35 good colonies, and took off 1,600 pounds of comb honey. I received about 200 pounds of black honey, which I sold for 8 cents per pound; the other I graded and sold for 10 and 12½ cents per pound at home.

**Good Results.**—G. Crouse, Ithaca, 9 Mich., on Dec., 29, 1886, writes:

We had our first colony in July, 1884, my wife hiving them in a common hive with movable frames. They built 8 frames of comb and stored some honey, and we fed them 5 pounds of granulated sugar. In the fall I put some corn-stalks around the hive, leaving the entrance open so the bees could fly in fair weather. They wintered all right. During the summer

of 1885 we increased them to 5 colonies, by dividing them, and got 75 pounds of comb honey. These bees were hybrids. In the fall of 1885 my wife's father gave her a colony of Italians, making in all 6 colonies, which we packed in chaff hives, and left on the summer stands. They all came out in good condition last spring. We now have 13 strong colonies in chaff hives on the summer stands. I have sold 2 colonies at \$5 each, and have had 1,190 pounds of surplus comb honey in 1½-pound sections. We have sold nearly all of it in our home market at 12½ cents per pound for light, and 10 cents for dark. My wife worked in her father's apiary two seasons, so we were somewhat acquainted with the habits of the little workers when we commenced. Basswood was nearly a total failure in this locality.

**Controlling Swarming, etc.**—David Rawhouser, Columbus City, 9 Iowa, on Jan. 6, 1887, says:

My bees did well last summer. I commenced the honey season with 100 colonies; I now have 160 in my cellar, and they are doing well. I took 8,000 pounds of comb honey last season. I have been looking for the man for years that could step up boldly to knock off such a "chip" as the one now on Dr. Miller's shoulder; but the man always fails to control or prevent the desire for swarming. Mr. Quinby offered \$100 for a non-swarming hive. But it has not been forthcoming. It seems that Victor Clough dare not strike at the "chip" now up, either.

**Wintering Bees in a Bee-Cellar.**—Otto Bussanmas, Bevington, 9 Iowa, on Jan. 3, 1887, writes:

Last November I built a bee house and cellar purposely for my bees. It is 14x24 feet; a brick floor is in it, and 5-inch tiling lengthwise, entering the floor 4 inches underneath; also a furnace in one end, to heat it if necessary. The cost of the cellar was \$250. On Nov. 15 I put 89 colonies into it. I can keep the temperature at 35° without using the furnace. Is it advisable to raise it to 45°? I use cloth and burlap for covers, 3 or 4 thick, and some excelsior in the caps. I use Langstroth hives, leaving the entrances open, and no top-ventilation. So far I have had the temperature in the cellar at 38° to 43°, by using the furnace. Four or 5 colonies were restless, and their hives contained many dead bees on the bottom-boards.

[Yes; use the furnace, and keep the temperature at 45°, Fahr.—ED.]

**The Season of 1886.**—Abe Hoke, Union City, 9 Ind., on Jan. 7, 1887, writes:

I began last spring with 26 colonies. One proved to be queenless, and I gave them brood and they reared a queen and gathered enough honey for winter. I increased my apiary to 37 colonies, by natural swarming. I sold



3 colonies, doubled back one, and put 33 into winter quarters, 15 in straw hives placed in brick cases 4 inches thick, with 15 inches of hay over the top; and 17 colonies in straw hives cased on the outside with  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch lumber, well painted, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch space between the straw and the casing. I got about 800 pounds of comb honey, and about 100 pounds of extracted. I have one colony in a 3-comb observatory hive packed in dry sawdust. My bees are all on the summer stands, and I think they have plenty of honey to last until the latter part of March. Good comb honey sells, at wholesale, for 15 cents per pound. The price of honey is too low, and we ought to combine to raise the price. I sold honey 20 years ago at 40 cents per pound, wholesale, and I can now buy as much with 10 cents as I could then with 40 cents. Then I would have had, altogether, 100; now I have 800 pounds as the result of the season's work.

**Milk-White Honey.**—M. G. Mad-dock, Marion, Co. Iowa, asks the following:

Is unadulterated candied honey ever of a milk-white color?

[Yes; we have had pure, linden honey, which, when granulated, appeared very much like lard. Its quality was excellent.—Ed.]

**Contemptible Conduct.**—J. M. A. Miller, Galva, Co. Ills., writes:

My 50 colonies of bees are all in the cellar, and seem as quiet as on a summer day. I notice that the winter problem has finally largely settled down to cellar wintering, and in my opinion it will so remain. Our honey market was nearly ruined last fall, by men that happened to produce some honey, and then coming to town and selling at the groceries all they could at a nominal figure, and then peddling it all over town; thus not only injuring the market, but destroying the grocery trade that they first sold to. Is not such conduct contemptible?

**Wintering Drones—Selling Honey.** Allen Latham, Lancaster, Co. Mass., on Jan. 8, 1887, writes:

Bees seem to be in good condition so far, and bid fair to winter without loss. They have had one flight since the advent of winter (the middle of November, here). That flight was a little before Christmas. We are now having a cold spell, it being 18° to 20° below zero some mornings. When they had their flight I saw drones fly from one hive, thus showing that drones can be wintered. In this hive was a late swarm that became queenless, and reared a queen late in the fall, and, it seems, having kept the drones so long, it concluded to keep them forever. Though as to that, I saw one of the drones giving a free, but not willing, ride to one of the workers. I started the season with 5

colonies, had one given to me, and bought a pound of bees, and with this help I increased my apiary to 16 colonies, besides a small log hive and a glass one for curiosities. I took the glass hive and some honey to the town "cattle show." It attracted much attention, and has helped me to dispose of my honey. I sell my honey at 25 cents per pound for clover, apple, goldenrod and aster honey, and 20 cents per pound for buckwheat honey. I am building up a home trade, and the trade as yet keeps up with my supply. The BEE JOURNAL comes regularly, and I could not well get along without it. Its regularity bears a great contrast to certain other bee-papers.

**Bee-Keeping in Arizona.**—J. H. Brown, Prescott, Co. Arizona, on Jan. 7, 1887, says:

I obtained 50 pounds of honey per colony, fall count, and one-half swarm per hive. Our honey is dark, and some of it is strong, but improves with age. Our mixed bees are a terror, and if the Holy Land is like the bees, I do not want to go there. But bees with less energy might not pay at all. I think they go 8 or 10 miles at times for honey.

**Results of the Season.**—W. F. Roe, Candor, Co. N. Y., on Jan. 7, 1887, writes:

I commenced the season with 60 colonies in 10-frame Langstroth hives, in fair condition. I increased them to 100 colonies, and took 2,000 pounds of comb honey in 1-pound sections, about one-half white and one-half dark, and 500 pounds of extracted honey. I worked some of my neighbor's bees on shares, and got 15 swarms for my share, making me 115 colonies. They are all heavy with natural stores; 65 colonies are in the cellar, and 50 are packed in sawdust on the summer stands. I am selling my honey at 7 cents per pound for extracted, and 8 to 10 cents for comb honey.

**Home Market for Honey, etc.**—D. Y. Kennady, Batavia, Co. Iowa, on Jan. 6, 1887, writes:

In the fall of 1885, I had 28 colonies, 18 in chaff hives with tops packed with straw, and 10 in Langstroth hives well packed in straw. On Feb. 16, 1886, I moved them 25 miles on the cars. They all wintered nicely except one late swarm that starved, and I lost 2 in April. I do not know the cause. They left plenty of honey in the hives. That left me 25 colonies in good condition, but, owing to the drouth, one-third of them did not swarm. I increased them to 48, and secured 1,500 pounds of honey in one-pound sections, which I sold for 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 15 cents per section in my home market. It was all sold by Nov. 15, and I could have sold three times that amount at the same price. I hope that I will be able to supply the demand next year. I now have 28 colonies on the summer stands in

chaff hives, packed the same as last year; and 20 colonies in the cellar in the Langstroth hive, with two-ply of carpet over them. The cellar ranges in temperature from 36° to 42°. They all seem to be in good condition at this time, and each has from 30 to 50 pounds of natural stores for winter. All that I know about the business I have learned in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL in the last two years.

**Drones Flying on Christmas.**—Col. R. Walton, Industry, Co. Pa., on Jan. 10, 1887, says:

My bees did very well the past season. I sold all but 15 colonies, and they increased to about 40. I obtained a splendid yield of comb honey, and sold the most of it at home for 20 and 25 cents per pound. It was a remarkable season for nectar. The bees that had out on shares did better than they have for 6 or 7 years. One or two colonies are carrying their drones through the winter. This is something new to me. They had a flight on Christmas, the drones and young bees flying and roaring as if it were in June. I should like to know if others have ever had such to happen. My bees are in prime condition. Well, Mr. Editor, I would like to enter my protest against taxing bees, and also against bee-legislation.

**Selling Honey at Home.**—Uriah Stephenson, Gladstone, Co. Ills., on Dec. 12, 1886, writes:

Eighty colonies, spring count, have produced 7,100 pounds of honey, mostly extracted, and I increased them to 107 colonies. By properly grading it, putting it up in suitable packages, and taking it around, it recommended itself, and I am satisfied that I could sell three times as much if I had it, and at much better prices than commission men can. Talk about there being an over-production of honey—surely there is not as much produced as would be consumed in the country around our apiaries, if we would only go around and present it in proper condition, and not wait for them to come to us. As for those inexperienced bee-keepers, I made my best sales all around them, to their nearest neighbors. I have no fault to find with commission men. Bee-keepers are to blame. If we would go around the country, I affirm that we can sell all our honey, and every year the trade will be better, instead of throwing it all on the commission men's hands, and making it a drag. I have 115 colonies in a good, dry cave, 40x8 feet, and 10 feet high in the centre, with all apertures closed as tightly as I could make them; and while the mercury is far below zero outside, it is at 47° in the cave. I put the bees away in the latter part of November, and I expect to be able to make a good report next spring.

One Dollar invested for the weekly visits of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for 1887, will richly repay every apiarist in America.



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 923 & 925 WEST MADISON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.  
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**ALFRED H. NEWMAN,**  
 BUSINESS MANAGER.

## Special Notices.

**To Correspondents.**—It would save us much trouble, if all would be particular to give their P. O. address and name, when writing to this office. We have several letters (some inclosing money) that have no name; many others having no Post-Office, County or State. Also, if you live near one post-office and get your mail at another, be sure to give the address we have on our list.

**When Renewing** your subscription please try to get your neighbor who keeps bees to join with you in taking the BEE JOURNAL. It is now so cheap that no one can afford to do without it. We will present a **Binder** for the BEE JOURNAL to any one sending us three subscriptions—with \$3.00—direct to this office. It will pay any one to devote a few hours, to get subscribers.

**Simmlus' Non-Swarming System** is the title of a new English bee-book. The author claims that it will inaugurate a "new era in modern bee-keeping," and states that "it is based upon purely natural principles, and is the only system that can ever be relied upon, because no other condition exists in the economy of the hive that can be applied to bring about the desired result—a total absence of any desire to swarm." It contains 64 pages; is well printed and illustrated. Price 50 cents. It can now be obtained at this office.

**Preserve your Papers** for reference. If you have no **BINDER** we will mail you one for 60 cents, or you can have one **FREE** if you will send us 3 new yearly subscriptions for the BEE JOURNAL.

**Dr. Miller's Book**, "A Year Among the Bees," and the BEE JOURNAL for one year, we will club for \$1.50.

**Colored Posters** for putting up over honey exhibits at Fairs are quite attractive, as well as useful. We have prepared some for the BEE JOURNAL, and will send two or more free of cost to any one who will use them, and try to get up a club.

## Honey and Beeswax Market.

The following are our very latest quotations for honey and beeswax:

### CHICAGO.

**HONEY.**—Market is well supplied with all the grades, and the demand is light. Prices are nominal at 11¢@12¢ for white in 1-lb. sections. Fancy white in section pound sections, 13¢. Very little extracted is being sold, and prices range from 45¢ to 70¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—22¢.  
 H. A. BURNETT,  
 Dec. 8. 161 South Water St.

### NEW YORK.

**HONEY.**—In consequence of a large stock of comb honey on this market, fancy prices cannot be maintained. Fancy white honey in paper boxes, or glassed, are in better favor here than the unglazed honey, hence the difference in the price. We quote present prices as follows: Fancy white in 1-lb. paper boxes, or glassed, 13¢; same unglazed, 12¢; and in 2-lb. glassed sections, 10¢@11¢; off grades 1 to 2 cts. per lb. less. Calif. comb, 85¢@90¢; fancy buckwheat 1-lb., 85¢@90¢, and 2-lb., 75¢@80¢. Extracted white clover, none in the market. Calif. ext'd, 40-lb. cans, 55¢@60¢; buckwheat, in kegs and barrels, 45¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—21¢@23¢.  
**MCCAUL & HILDRETH BROS.,**  
 Dec. 7. 34 Hudson St.

### BOSTON.

**HONEY.**—The demand has improved. We are selling one-pound packages of white clover honey at 13¢@14¢; 2-pounds at 11¢@12¢. Extracted, 5¢@7¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—24 cts. per lb.  
**JAN. 1. BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.**

### DETROIT.

**HONEY.**—Few sales are reported. Best white comb, 12¢@14¢; Fall comb honey, 10¢@11¢. Extracted is offered for 6¢@8¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—Firm at 23¢.  
**JAN. 10. M. H. HUNT., Bell Branch, Mich.**

### CINCINNATI.

**HONEY.**—Demand for all kinds has been very slow since Christmas, and occasional concessions have to be made to effect a sale of comb honey. We quote prices for extracted honey, 30¢@35¢ per lb. Nice comb brings 12¢@15¢ per lb. in a jobbing way.  
**BEE SWAX.**—Good demand, 20¢@22¢ per lb. for good to choice yellow.  
**JAN. 11. C.F. MUTH & SON, Freeman & Central Av.**

### CLEVELAND.

**HONEY.**—The market is not very active and prices a little lower. Choice 1-lb. sections of best white sell at 13¢@14¢; second grade 1-lb., 10¢@12¢; choice white 2-lb., 11¢@12¢. Extracted, slow at 6¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—Scarce at 25¢.  
**Nov. 17. A. C. KENDAL, 115 Ontario Street.**

### MILWAUKEE.

**HONEY.**—The demand for honey is only moderate and the supply ample, of very fine quality and in extra good order. We quote choice 1-lb. sections of white at 12¢@13¢; 2-lb., 11¢@12¢; dark not wanted. Extracted, white, in barrels, half-barrels and in kegs, 60¢@65¢; in tin packages, 65¢@70¢; dark, in barrels and ½-barrels, 55¢@60¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—Nominal at 25¢.  
**Dec. 13. A. V. BISHOP, 142 W. Water St.**

### SAN FRANCISCO.

**HONEY.**—We quote: Comb, extra white, 12¢@13 cts.; amber to white, 8¢@11. Extracted, white, 4¢@4½¢; amber and candied, 3¢@4¢. Trade is quiet.  
**JAN. 10. O. B. SMITH & CO., 453 Front St.**

**HONEY.**—As generally at the beginning of the year, honey is very quiet, but prices are well maintained, in consequence of the continued absence of the needed rains; and although it is too early to say anything regarding the next crop, prospects are not so good as they were last year at this time. Large orders from Europe remain unexecuted, prices being under 4¢ here, and owners refusing to sell for less than 4½¢, at which price we quote good to choice honey. Comb honey firm at 8¢@12¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—Active at 18¢@21¢.  
**JAN. 10. SCHACHT & LEMCKE, 122-124 Davis St.**

### KANSAS CITY.

**HONEY.**—The demand is light, and stocks of all grades are large. We quote: White clover 1-lb., 12¢; dark 1-lb., 8¢@10¢; white clover 2-lb., 10¢@11 cts.; dark 2-lb., 7¢@9¢. Extracted, white clover, 6¢; dark, 4¢@5¢; white sage, 5¢@5½¢; amber, 4¢@5¢.  
**BEE SWAX.**—20¢@23¢.  
**JAN. 13. CLEMONS, CLOON & CO., cor. 4th & Walnut.**

### ST. LOUIS.

**HONEY.**—Choice comb, 10¢@12¢; latter price is for choice white clover. Strained, in barrels, 3¢@4¢. Extra fancy of bright color and in No. 1 packages, ½ advance on above prices. Extracted in barrels, 4¢@5¢; in cans 5¢@6¢. Market dull.  
**BEE SWAX.**—Firm at 20¢@25¢ for prime.  
**Dec. 20. D. G. TUTT & CO., Commercial St.**

The Fremont Progressive Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its semi-annual meeting in conjunction with the Farmers' Institute, at Fremont, Mich., on Feb. 4, 1887. GEO. E. HILTON, Sec.

## OUR CLUBBING LIST.

We supply the American Bee Journal one year, and any of the following publications, at the prices quoted in the last column of figures. The first column gives the regular price of both. All postage prepaid.

|                                    | Price of both. Club |
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| Canadian Bee Journal .....         | 2 00.. 1 75         |
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| and Cook's Manual .....            | 2 25.. 2 00         |
| Bees and Honey (Newman) .....      | 2 00.. 1 75         |
| Binder for Am. Bee Journal .....   | 1 00.. 1 50         |
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| A Year Among the Bees .....        | 1 75.. 1 50         |

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**Premium Worth Having.**—The New York World and the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL (both weekly) will be sent for one year to any address in North America for \$2.00. And in addition PRESENT to every such CLUB SUBSCRIBER a "History of the United States," containing 320 pages and 22 fine engravings, bound in leather and gilt.

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**As there is Another firm** in Chicago by the name of "Newman & Son," we wish our correspondents would write "American Bee Journal" on the envelope when writing to this office. Several letters of ours have already gone to the other firm (a commission house), causing vexatious delay and trouble.

**Money Orders** can now be obtained at the Post Offices at reduced rates. Five dollars and under costs now only 5 cents. As these are absolutely safe, it will pay to get them instead of the Postal Notes which are payable to any one who presents them, and are in no way safe.

**All New Subscriptions** will begin with the year, and until further notice we will send the back numbers from January 1, unless otherwise ordered.

**We will Present Webster's Dictionary** (pocket edition), and send it by mail, post-paid, for two subscribers with \$2. It is always useful to have a dictionary at hand to decide as to the spelling of words, and to determine their meaning.



## Home Market for Honey.

To create Honey Markets in every village, town and city, wide-awake honey producers should get the Leaflets "Why Eat Honey" (only 50 cents per 100), or else the pamphlets on "Honey as Food and Medicine," and scatter them plentifully, and the result will be a DEMAND for all of their crops at remunerative prices. "Honey as Food and Medicine" are sold at the following prices:

Single copy, 5 cts.; per doz., 40 cts.; per hundred, \$2.50. Five hundred will be sent postpaid for \$10.00; or 1,000 for \$15.00. On orders of 100 or more, we will print, if desired, on the cover-page, "Presented by," etc. (giving the name and address of the bee-keeper who scatters them).

To give away a copy of "Honey as Food and Medicine" to every one who buys a package of honey, will sell lots of it.

Yucca Brushes are employed for removing bees from the combs. They are a soft, vegetable fiber, and do not irritate the bees. As each separate fiber extends the whole length of the handle as well as the brush, they are almost indestructible. When they become sticky with honey, they can be washed, and when dry, are as good as ever. The low price at which they are sold, enables any bee-keeper to have six or more of them, so as to always have one handy. We can supply them at 5 cents each, or 50 cents a dozen; if sent by mail, add 1 cent each for postage.

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**The Report of the Indianapolis Convention** is now published in pamphlet form, uniform with that of last year. It will be sent postpaid for 25 cents to any address.

We have also bound it up with last year's, together with the History of the Society; this we will mail for 40 cents. Or if you send us one new subscriber (with one dollar) besides your own renewal, we will present you with a copy by mail.

## System and Success.

All who intend to be systematic in their work in the apiary, should get a copy of the Apiary Register and commence to use it. The prices are reduced, as follows:

For 50 colonies (120 pages).....\$1 00  
" 100 colonies (220 pages)..... 1 25  
" 200 colonies (420 pages)..... 1 50

The larger ones can be used for a few colonies, give room for an increase of numbers, and still keep the record all together in one book, and are therefore the most desirable.

**More Premiums.**—Mr. L. J. Diehl, of Butler, Ind., offers a colony of Italian bees as a present to the person sending to this office the largest club of subscribers for 1887. The subscriptions may be sent in at any time before the first of May at our regular club rates, and additions made as desired, but it must be stated that you are working for that premium, so that we can keep account of the subscriptions.

As a premium to the second largest club we will send my mail, postpaid, a copy of the "Farm Account Book," worth \$3. The postage is 20 cents.

We keep this Notice standing all the year round: "Always give the name of the Postoffice to which your paper is addressed. Your name cannot be found on our list unless this is done," and yet many ask us to change their address without even mentioning to what Postoffice it has heretofore been sent. It often costs us more to find their old address than they pay for the BEE JOURNAL for a year; as we may have to examine our subscription lists in every State, Province and Territory in North America. Please be more careful in the future, and never omit your name, Postoffice, county and State.

**A New Crate** to hold one dozen one-pound sections of honey.—It has a strip of glass on each side, to allow the honey to be seen. It is a light and attractive package. As it holds but one tier of sections, no damage from the drippings from an upper tier can occur. We can furnish the material, ready to nail, for 9 cts. per crate. Glass 1½c. per light, extra.

**Red Labels** for one-pound pails of honey, size 3x4½ inches.—We have just gotten up a lot of these Labels, and can supply them at the following prices: 100 for \$1.00; 250 for \$1.50; 500 for \$2.00; 1,000 for \$3.00; all with name and address of apiarist printed on them—by mail, postpaid.

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## Advertisements.

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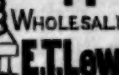
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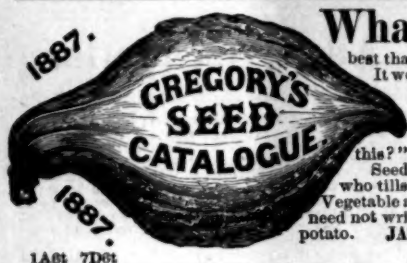
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## A Year among the Bees,

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